INFLUENZA



CLINIC TELEPHONE TRIAGE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Does the patient have Flu-Like symptoms including: Fever higher than 100° with cough and/or sore throat

IF YES: The patient may have the flu. Go on to next question

2. Is the patient "AT RISK"?

People age 65 years and older

Pregnant women, children less than five years

Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities

People of any age with chronic medical conditions

People of any age who have immunosuppression

IF YES: This patient might have the flu and is considered at risk for complications. This patient should be evaluated (interviewed and/or examined) by a Provider. Please forward patient's information to the Medical Provider on call.

IF YES OR NO:

3. Does the patient have the "WARNING SIGNS?"

Difficulty Breathing or shortness of breath Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen

Sudden dizziness or confusion

Severe or persistent vomiting

IF YES: This patient needs urgent medical attention. Please refer them to the emergency room or to call 911.

IF YES TO #1 only (but NO to #2 and #3): This patient may have the flu and should STAY HOME and recover.

- Keep away from others as much as possible. This is to keep from making others sick. Do not go to work or school while ill. Stay home for at least 24 hours after fever is gone (Fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)
- Get plenty of rest and stay hydrated by drinking clear fluids (such as water, broth, sports drinks, electrolyte beverages for infants) to keep from being dehydrated
- Treat fever as directed with Acetaminophen (such as Tylenol), Ibuprofen (such a Advil, Motrin or Nuprin), or Naproxen (such as Aleve). It is best not to use Aspirin, due to the risk of Reye's Syndrome in children.
- Cover coughs and sneezes. Clean hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub often and especially after using tissues and after coughing or sneezing into hands